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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013

Transitional measures concerning financial reporting by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees under the International Public Sector Accounting Standards

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the General Assembly a report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on transitional measures concerning financial reporting by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees under the International Public Sector Accounting Standards.

* A/66/150.

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Transitional measures concerning financial reporting by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees under the International Public Sector Accounting Standards

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

1. The General Assembly, through its resolution 60/283, approved the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards as the accounting standard for all United Nations organizations to replace the United Nations system accounting standards.

2. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) aims to be compliant with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards as of 1 January 2012. In this regard, the financial rules for voluntary funds administered by the High Commissioner for Refugees (A/AC.96/503/Rev.9), which are currently in accordance with the United Nations system accounting standards, are being revised and will be submitted to the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme for its approval at its sixty-second session, which will be held in Geneva from 3 to 7 October 2011.

3. Subject to the approval by the Executive Committee, these financial rules are promulgated by the High Commissioner. They govern all financial activities pertaining to UNHCR voluntary funds and must be consistent with the Financial Regulations of the United Nations.

4. Noting the timing of the revision of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations to comply with the Standards, the High Commissioner requests, for the sole purpose of the Office's timely implementation of the Standards, the General Assembly to authorize UNHCR to apply mutatis mutandis the Financial Regulations and Rules to its voluntary funds accounting processes and financial reporting in a manner that allows it to be compliant with the Standards as of 1 January 2012.